

Egypt E-Alert

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Egypt works with U.S. and Afghanistan to protect Afghan wheat production
August 13, 2010

Tomorrow, the United States, Egypt, and Afghanistan will mark the signing of a cooperation agreement that seeks to protect the livelihoods of farmers in Afghanistan.

A statement from the U.S. Embassy in Cairo explains that a disease-resistant strain of wheat will be provided to Afghan farmers to improve their wheat production. The agreement represents an effort to combat Ug99 – a strain of a deadly wheat pathogen known as stem rust – which is capable of killing an entire crop of wheat within a few days. The wind-borne Ug99 fungus was first detected in Uganda in 1999 and has since spread to other countries in Africa and the Middle East.

The U.S. Agriculture Ministry, the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, and international independent researchers, including agricultural researchers from Egypt, have worked together to develop new strains of wheat capable of resisting the pathogen.

Egypt was one of the first countries to develop and double the productivity of a strain of wheat that resists the Ug99 pathogen. Known as Misr1, the strain was first successfully grown in Afghanistan last year.

To read more, please [click here](#).

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From: Egyptian Press and Information Office [100facts@modernegypt.info]
Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2010 12:13 PM
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Subject: Egypt's Coptic Museum houses thousands of icons, manuscripts and textiles.

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100 Facts About Egypt N° 71

Egypt's Coptic Museum houses thousands of icons, manuscripts and textiles.



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- The Coptic Museum was founded in 1910 and recently reopened after five years of extensive renovations.
- President Hosni Mubarak has taken a strong interest in the Coptic Museum and came in person to inaugurate it on June 26, 2006.
- The museum houses a collection of 16,000 works of art, of which

1,200 treasures are exhibited to the public. It also owns 6,000 papyrus manuscripts, including the Psalms of David and the manuscripts of Nag Hammadi.

- Egypt is home to the largest and oldest Christian community in the Middle East.

Coptic Cairo: The Coptic Museum <http://www.coptic-cairo.com/museum/museum.html>
Coptic Museum, Cairo <http://www.sacred-destinations.com/egypt/cairo-coptic-museum>



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